

## House Resolution 771

By: Representatives Neal of the 1<sup>st</sup>, Butler of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Coan of the 101<sup>st</sup>, Morgan of the 39<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery  
2 (APTR); and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, drug addiction is a growing problem in today's society and threatens to tear  
4 apart families and entire communities; and

5 WHEREAS, abuse of addictive drugs can lead to health issues, overdose, and death for the  
6 user, while the communities in which addicts live suffer from increased health problems,  
7 high crime rates, and unemployment; and

8 WHEREAS, study is needed to determine the economic return from investment in drug abuse  
9 treatment and prevention programs by determining the accessibility of these programs to  
10 addicts and the possible savings that result from such programs, such as reduced health care  
11 costs, crime, and spending for social services; and

12 WHEREAS, current regulations related to addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery  
13 must be studied to determine if the current practices create barriers to treatment and are  
14 reflective of scientific knowledge regarding quality of care; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia laws must be further studied to determine if the appropriate ethical  
16 standards are present in licensing requirements for treatment programs and facilities and to  
17 aid in establishing a clear definition of what constitutes a treatment program; and

18 WHEREAS, verification of the source of funding for treatment programs is needed, and  
19 options for increasing funding streams and the possibility of coordinating state provided  
20 services must be explored; and

21 WHEREAS, study is needed to determine whether current addiction prevention, treatment,  
22 and recovery support purchasing practices are effective, including training methods and the  
23 use of evidenced based practices; and

24 WHEREAS, the possibility of using performance based contracting or other strategies to  
25 enhance treatment, prevention, and recovery outcomes needs exploration; and

26 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the issues and facts relating to drug addiction  
27 prevention, treatment, and recovery, the programs and methods used to assist those suffering  
28 from addiction, and an attempt to establish an effective policy on such areas is needed to  
29 protect the health of Georgia citizens.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 there is created the House Study Committee on Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and  
32 Recovery (APTR) to be composed of five members to be appointed by the Speaker of the  
33 House of Representatives who shall designate one member as chairperson. The chairperson  
34 shall call all meetings of the committee.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of current  
36 practices for treating and preventing drug addiction and identify the best economic,  
37 regulatory, financial, and administrative practices for treatment and recovery programs.  
38 Furthermore, the committee shall recommend any action or legislation which the committee  
39 deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places  
40 and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and  
41 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this  
42 resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code  
43 Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by  
44 this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days  
45 unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
46 resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the  
47 event the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions  
48 for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2009.  
49 The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2009.